

David Munson papers

L114

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January 14, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Munson, David, 1820-1907?
Title	David Munson papers
Date	1838-1913
Extent	0.6 Cubic feet 2 manuscript boxes
Language	English

Preferred Citation

David Munson papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

David R. Munson was born in New Jersey in 1820 [1828?]. He was married to Isabella Ralston Johnston in Marion, Indiana on Feb. 6, 1849, shortly after he moved to Indiana. They had four sons; William G., David R., Alvin J. and Samuel A. He invented the Munson lightning conductor (an improvement over Benjamin Franklin's original lightning rod), patenting more than 100 different rods and fixtures, and founded the Munson Lightning Conductor Company in 1850 in Indianapolis, Indiana. At one time the company was located at 220 E. Washington St. Munson died at the age of 87 after a fall during the installation of a lightning rod in Curtisville, Indiana. He is buried next to his wife, who died in 1901, in the Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Information found within the collection.

"Inventor Munson dead". Indianapolis Sun 04 April 1907:10. Retrieved 2015/12/31. <http://access.newspaperarchive.com.us.indiana/indianapolis/indianapolis-sun/1907/04-04/page10>

"Munson, David". 1880 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2015/12/31. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Munson, David". Find a Grave Memorial. Retrieved 2015/12/31. <http://www.findagrave.com>

"Munson, David". Indiana, Index to Select Marriages, 1780-1992. Retrieved 2015/12/31. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Munson, Isabella Ralston". Find a Grave Memorial. Retrieved 2015/12/31. <http://www.findagrave.com>

Scope and Contents

This collection includes autographed and signed correspondence, newspaper advertising, newspaper articles, photographs, invoices, and award ribbons from various sources in Indiana and elsewhere ranging from 1838-1913 regarding the Munson Lightning Rod, advertising, the Munson family and business accounts.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged by subject.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Gladys Munson Wurzburg on 1941/08/15 and 1942/08/06.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/12/31 by Edythe Huffman. EAD finding aid created 2015/12/31 by Edythe Huffman.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Munson Lightning Conductor Company (Indianapolis, Ind.).

Family Name(s)

- Munson family

Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks

Geographic Name(s)

- Indianapolis (Ind.)

Subject(s)

- Lightning conductors

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Correspondence and papers, 1838-1909; undated	1	1
Munson Lightning Rod advertisements and publicity, 1873-1909; undated	1	2
Premium ribbons won by Munson Lightning Rods, 1873-1913	1	3
Photographs, circa 1838-1913	1	4
Scrapbook, circa 1838-1913	1	5
Accounts and invoices, 1866-1879	2	1